

Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish, From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

LYCOPODIUM DENDROIDEUM TREELIKE CLUBMOSS

Treelike Clubmoss is an evergreen perennial that resembles a miniature coniferous tree. The scattered, branched stems are 12-30 cm high and arise from deep rhizomes. Stems and branches are densely clothed in 6-8 ranks of narrow, sharp pointed leaves that are 2-5 mm long. The spores, each subtended by a broadly lance-shaped sporophyll, are 2-4 mm long and are borne in dense, cone-like, brownish, 2-4 cm long spikes located at the tips of erect branches. Producing spores in July.

In related species and genera, the rhizome is located above or just beneath the surface of the ground rather than deeply buried. The appearance resembling a miniature evergreen tree is distinctive.